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U.S. DEDUCTIONS OF COLOUROS BATTAY (ND TRADELARY OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/FO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER 2542,00034

1 0 / 0 1 8 9 8 7

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED PCT/EI00/00543 16 June 2000 30 June 1999 TITLE OF INVENTION

STEERING ARRANGEMENT FOR MOBILE X-RAY APPARATUS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Jarmo LUUSUA; Petri POHJOISPURO; Petri PYRRO

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

- This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
- 2 This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
- 3. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated
- 4. The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
- a.

 is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b.

 has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c.

 is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
- A English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. X is attached hereto.
 - b. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
- Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))

 - b. | have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. \Box have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d.
 have not been made and will not be made.
- 8. A English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
- ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
- 10. A English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern other document(s) or information included:

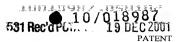
- An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- 12. □An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
- A FIRST preliminary amendment.
- 14. A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
- \substitute specification.
- \sum A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
- 17. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821-1.825.
- A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
- □ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
- 20.
 Other items or information:
 - Applicant claims small entity status.
 - Supplement to Transmittal Letter.

(1 January 2001) Page 1 of 3

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U.S. APPLICATION P. Ok	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 2542-00034							
21. The following fees an Basic National Fee (37 CFR Neither international prelimina	1.492(a)(1)-(5)); ary examination fee (37 CFR 1	1.482)		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY				
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but international search fee (3	nination fee (37 CFR 1.482) r 7 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to US nination fee (37 CFR 1.482).p	SPTO \$	740.6	00				
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CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE					
Total Claims	6 - 20 =		x \$ 18.0					
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =		x \$ 84.0					
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CI	_AIM(S) (if applicable)		+ \$280.					
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a. \[\text{A} \] A check in the amount of \$\frac{1,170.00}{1,170.00} \] to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. \[\text{Pease charge my Deposit Account No.} \] in the amount of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. \[\text{The Commussioner is hereby sunbrivated to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. \[\frac{012000}{12000}. \text{ Aduplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.} \] d. \[Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WaRNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.								
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.								
100 East Wisconsir Milwaukee, Wisco	LES, STARKE & SAWALL, A Avenue, Suite 1100 nsin 53202			thele 12/19/01				
Phone: (414) 271-7 Fax: (414) 271-577		Daniel D.	Fetterley Name	20,323 Reg. No.				

U.S. APPLICATION NO. TROWN/SOFTCHE 198	FINTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/FI/00/00543	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 2542-00034
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Daniel D. Fetterley	20,323	
Name	Reg. N	o.
Danel D. Fetterley)2 (19/01
Signature	Date	



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Application of

JARMO LUUSUA ET AL.

Int'l. Appin. No. PC1/F100/00343	,	X-RAY APPARATUS						
Int'l. Filing Date: 15 June 2000	í	A Addi A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A						
SUPPLEMENT TO TRANSMITTAL LETTER								
		Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 December 18, 2001						
Box PCT Application Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231								
Sir:								
Entry of this application int	the	National Phase in the United States is pursuant to						
37 C.F.R. §1.494(c)/1.495(c). The papers	inclu	ide an English language specification and claims,						
and the drawing. The oath or declaration	of the	applicant is not included. The declaration will be						
forwarded promptly upon notification from	the U	J.S. Patent and Trademark Office.						
Respectfully submitted,								
Resp	ectiui	iy subinitted,						
		, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP						
(i)	ann	1 D. Fittoly						
Dani	el D. I	Fetterley (Reg. No. 20,323)						
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202								
(414) 271-7590 Atty. Docket No.: 2542-00034 (C.12052-101	.)							
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Daniel D. Fetterley		20,323						
Name		Reg. No.						
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Signature		Date						

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Int'l. Appln. No. PCT/FI00/00543)	STEERING ARRANGEMEN MOBILE X-RAY APPARAT	
Int'l. Filing Date: 16 June 2000	í	•	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 December 18, 2001

Box PCT Application Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is requested that U.S. national stage examination be carried out on the amended claims dated September 10, 2001. Prior to computing the filing fee in this application, kindly amend the above identified application, as follows. The filing fee is to be computed on the amended claims.

In the Abstract:

A clean copy of the Abstract as published is attached. No changes to the Abstract have been made.

In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/FI00/00543, filed June 16, 2000, which international application was published on January 11, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/01860 in the English

JARMO LUUSUA ET AL.

Attv. Docket No. 2542-00034

language. The International Application claims priority of Finnish Patent Application 991487, filed June 30, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 32 of page 1 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 2 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Before the paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 2 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

 (amended) An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the height of the driving handle (1, 2) is adjustable.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (amended) An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the apparatus further comprises release means (7-9) by which the motor means (12) can be released from the driving coupling with the driving wheels (17), allowing the wheels (17) to rotate freely and thus the manual transfer of the carriage.

Add the following new claim:

6. (new) An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the height of the driving handle (1,2) is adjustable.

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IARMO LUUSUA ET AL.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

Daniel D. Fetterley (Reg. No. 20,323)

100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 (414) 271-7590 Atty. Docket No. 2542-00034 (C.12052-101)

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as EXPRESS MAIL - POST OFFICE ADDRESSEE, in an envelope addressed to: Box PCT Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 1944— day of December, 2001. The Express Label is EL812732781US.

Daniel D. Fetterley	20,323	
Name	Reg. No.	
Daniel D. Fetterly	12/19/01	
Signature	Date	

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

Attorney Docket No. 2542-00034

In the specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/F100/00543, filed June 16, 2000, which international application was published on January 11, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/01860 in the English language. The International Application claims priority of Finnish Patent Application 991487, filed June 30, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 32 of page 1 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 2 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Before the paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 2 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the claims:

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

 (amended) An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 1—er 2, characterised in that the height of the driving handle (1, 2) is adjustable.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

Attorney Docket No. 2542-00034

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4. (amended) An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim lamy of the above elaims, characterised in that the apparatus further comprises release means (7-9) by which the motor means (12) can be released from the driving coupling with the driving wheels (17), allowing the wheels (17) to rotate freely and thus the manual transfer of the carriage.

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STEERING ARRANGEMENT FOR MOBILE X-RAY APPARATUS.

The present invention relates to a mobile X-ray apparatus which comprises a carriage provided with at least one pair of independently driven driving wheels 5 and their motor means, the carriage including a driving handle which comprises side bars and a crossbar extending between them, the said apparatus in addition comprising means responsive to the movement of the driving handle, which responsive means control the operation of the motor means in order to steer the carriage in the desired direction.

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The mobile X-ray apparatus comprises a carriage to which is connected an X-ray source. X-ray receiving means and the control electronics required, and possibly a monitor for immediate examination of, for example, digitally produced X-ray photographs. When accumulators are used as the power source of a mobile X-15 ray apparatus, the weight of the apparatus increases and may be, for example, of the order of 300 kg, which means that to make the apparatus lighter to move, the driving motion must be motorised. One way of controlling this type of a motorised X-ray apparatus is to provide a driving handle, the manual moving of which provides control signals for driving the motor means of the driving wheels of the 20 carriage, in order to steer the carriage in the desired direction. One such solution is disclosed in US patent 4697661, in which the operation of the driving handle is based on converting the movement of the driving handle into a bending movement of the cantilevered arms arranged in the vicinity of the driving handle. the bending movement causing the said control signals to be produced. One object of the present invention is to achieve a new type of mobile X-ray apparatus in which the movement of the driving handle can be converted relatively simply and reliably into an electric signal controlling the control electronics of the motor means. An important additional object is to provide a motorised mobile X-ray apparatus which is additionally arranged to be manually movable without the 30 motor means in exceptional situations.

In order to achieve the objects of the invention, the mobile X-ray apparatus relating to the invention is characterised in that the side bars of the driving handle WO 01/01860 PCT/FI00/00543

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are attached to a rotation axis solidly fixed to the carriage, so as to turn about the axis: that the side bars and the crossbar are connected to each other in an articulated manner to allow the turning movement of the side bars about the said rotation axis to different extents and/or in different directions; that the side bars are provided with means which move along with the turning movement of the respective side bar each time, and the movement of which means is measured by measuring means which convert the movement of the said means into an electric signal by means of which the operation of the motor means of the driving wheels is controlled.

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The invention is described in greater detail below, with reference to the appended drawing, the only figure of which shows a diagrammatic side view of the carriage part of the X-ray apparatus, without the actual X-ray imaging devices to be included in it.

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In accordance with the figure, the carriage comprises driving wheels 17, of which there is one on either side of the carriage and which are driven each time by means of a driving motor 12 via belts 13, 15. Belt 15 is tightened by means of tension springs 11 and a jockey pulley 18 connected to them for transmitting the 20 rotary movement of the driving motor 12 via the belt pulleys 14, 16 to the driving wheel 17. The operation of the driving motor 12 is controlled by means of a driving handle which comprises side bars 2 and a crossbar 1 attached between them in an articulated manner. The side bars 2 are attached to a rotation axis 3 solidly fixed to the carriage to make possible their turning movement about the rotation axis 3. In the embodiment shown, to the rotation axis 3 end of the side bars is connected a part 4 of a toothed rim which moves together with the side bar 2 during the turning movement. This turning movement of the toothed rim 4 is measured, for example, by measuring means 10 realised as a potentiometer, which means converts the said movement into an electric signal which is fed to the control electronics of the driving motors 12 in order to drive the driving motors to steer the carriage in the desired direction. The articulated joint between the side bars 2 and the crossbar 1 allows a turning movement of the side bars 2 to a different extent and, if necessary, in a different direction about the said rotation

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axis 3 in order to make possible the desired direction of travel. When driving straight (forwards or backwards), the driving wheels rotate at mutually the same speed and in the same direction, but when turning left or right, one of the driving wheels must rotate slower than the driving wheel on the other side, or the driving wheels must rotate in different directions

In case of an exceptional situation, for example, when power is not switched on to the apparatus or if the batteries have ran down, the X-ray apparatus carriage relating to the invention is provided with means by which the driving motors 12 10 can be released from being driven together with the driving wheels 17 to allow the apparatus to be moved manually. In the embodiment shown, these means include a release plate 7 to which is attached a wire cable 9 which is connected to the jockey pulley 18 of the drive belt 15. When the driving handle is pushed or pulled considerably beyond the normal driving motion, the release plate 7 pulls the wire 15 cable 9 which in turn pulls the jockey pulley 18, thus allowing the drive belt 15 to slide over the belt pulley 14. This means that when the carriage is pushed or pulled, the wheels 17 are able to rotate although the drive motor 12 is at a halt by itself. When released from the driving handle, the tension springs 11 press the jockey pulley 18 against the drive belt 15, whereby the releasing of the driving handle acts as a brake due to the drive motor being at a halt by itself. When the driving handle is pulled into the normal position, it locks in it. The normal driving motion of the driving handle is restricted by means of limit stops 5 and the movement of the release means is for its part restricted by means of a stopper plate 8. In connection with the toothed rim 4 are in addition preferably arranged spring members 6 which position the driving handle in its centre position when 25 the grip on the drive handle is released. The height of the driving handle is preferably arranged so as to be adjustable.

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Claims

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- 1. A mobile X-ray apparatus which comprises a carriage provided with at least one pair of independently driven driving wheels and their motor means (12), the carriage including a driving handle which comprises side bars (2) and a crossbar (1) extending between them, the said apparatus in addition comprising means responsive to the movement of the driving handle, which responsive means control the operation of the motor means (12) in order to steer the carriage in the desired direction, characterised in that the side bars (2) of the driving handle (1. 2) are attached to a rotation axis (3) solidly fixed to the carriage, so as to turn about the axis; that the side bars (2) and the crossbar (1) are connected to each other in an articulated manner to allow the turning movement of the side bars (2) about the said rotation axis to different extents and/or in different directions; that the side bars are provided with means (4) which move along with the turning movement of the respective side bar (2) each time, and the movement of which means is measured by measuring means (10) which convert the movement of the said means (4) into an electric signal by means of which the operation of the motor means (12) of the driving wheels (17) is controlled.
- 2. An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the apparatus comprises means (6) for positioning the driving handle (1, 2) automatically in its centre position when the grip on the driving handle is released.
- An X-ray apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the height of the driving handle (1, 2) is adjustable.
- 4. An X-ray apparatus as claimed in any of the above claims, characterised in that the apparatus further comprises release means (7-9) by which the motor means (12) can be released from the driving coupling with the driving wheels (17), allowing the wheels (17) to rotate freely and thus the manual transfer of the carriage.

The Swedish Patent: PCT Internaucium de

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5. A mobile X-ray apparatus which comprises a carriage provided with at least one pair of independently driven driving wheels and their motor means (12), the carriage including a driving handle, the said apparatus in addition comprising means responsive to the movement of the driving handle, which responsive 5 means control the operation of the motor means (12) in order to steer the carriage in the desired direction, characterised in that the apparatus further comprises release means (7-9) by which the motor means (12) can be released from the driving coupling with the driving wheels (17), allowing the wheels (17) to rotate freely and thus the manual transfer of the carriage, and having means to cause braking of the carriage when the carriage is transferred manually.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

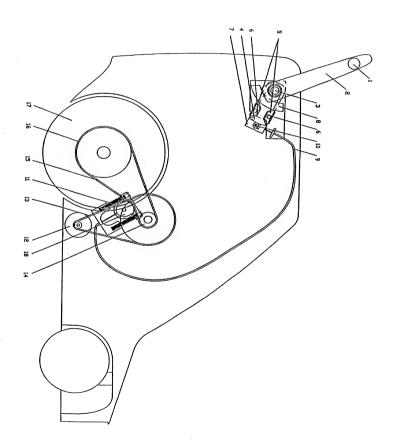
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The invention relates to a mobile X-ray apparatus that comprises a carriage provided with at least one pair of independently driven driving wheels and their motor means (12). The carriage includes a driving handle, which comprises sidebars (2), attached to a rotation axis solidly fixed to the carriage, and a crossbar (1), which is connected to the sidebars in an articulated manner to allow the turning movement of the sidebars about the said axis independently of each other. The apparatus also comprises means for controlling the operation of the motor means by movements of the handle. The sidebars are provided with means (4) that move along with the movement of the respective sidebar (2). The movements are measured by measuring means (10), which convert the movement into an electric signal by means of which the motor means (12) of the driving wheels (17) are controlled.

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entitled:			BILE X-RAY APPAF		a patent is sought on the	e inventio
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the specification of which ☐ is attached hereto OR	1					
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International Number (if applicable). I hereby state that I have amended by any amendr I acknowledge the duty Regulations, § 1.56. I hereby claim foreign prior patent or inventor's chan the United States of for patent or inventor's cowhich priority is claimed. Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	PCT/FI00 e reviewed ment speci to disclos iority beneficate, of America, ertificate, o	and understa fically referred e information fits under Title or §365(a) of listed below or of any PCT	nd the contents of the Ito above. which is material to 35, United States Coany PCT international and have also identificulternational applicati	above identified patentability as ode §119(a)-(d) o application whice d below, by che on having a filing Priority Not Claimed	specification, including the defined in Title 37 Code or \$365(b) of any foreign at h designed at least one coking the box, any foreign date before that of the ap date before that of the ap Copy Attache YES NC	of Feder oplication ountry oth application plication ed?
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			DECL	ARATION			,		
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☐ Additional U.S. or PCT As a named inventor, I he									
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Name	Registrati Numbe			Name				Registra Numb	er
Daniel D. Fetterley George H. Solveson Gary A. Essmann Thomas M. Wozny Michael E. Taken Joseph J. Jochman, Jr.	niel D. Fetterley 20,323 orge H. Solveson 25,927 ry A. Essmann 29,376 omas M. Wozny 28,922 chael E. Taken 28,120			oh D. Kub ey S. Soko m L. Falk				40,66 35,66 27,70	36
□ Additional attorney(s) a	ind/or agent(s) na	med on a	supple	mental sh	eet attach	ed heret	0.		
☑ Please direct all corres			aniel D.	Fetterley					
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☐ Additional inventors are being named on supplemental sheet(s) attached hereto.									
Name of Additional Join	t Inventor, if any: t and middle [if an			A petitio	n has bee		r this uns		ventor
Given Name (ilis	t and middle (ii an	y1)			ranning	valle of	Juliani		
Petri Pohjoispuro									
Inventor's Signature Petri Pohjiyms Date 03/25/2002						2002			
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DECLARATION		ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet					
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any: Given Name (first and middle [if any])	A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Family Name or Sumame						
_Retri	Pyrrö						
Inventor's Signature Pan Pan		Date 03/25/200					
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Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any: Given Name (first and middle [if any])		A petition	has been file Family Name			ventor	
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Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Petition	A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Family Name or Surname				
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